p 1633 + Bx5eg

PATENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services on the date set forth below as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Paterte Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Signature

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Carl R. Schwartz, Reg. No. 29,437

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICERECEIVED

Applicant:

James A. Thomson

DEC 0 9 1999

Serial No.:

09/106,390 June 26, 1998 TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: Title:

PRIMATE EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS

Art Unit:

1633

Examiner:

Deborah Clark

Assistant Commissioner For Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: Box Non-Fee Amendment

Dear Sir:

In response to the September 24, 1999 Office Action and in the matter of the above-described case, please enter the following Amendment.

Amendment

In The Specification:

Please replace pages 47-49 of the specification (the (A) Defequence listing) with the attached sequence listing.

In The Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

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--1. (Amended) A purified preparation of human embryonic stem cells which (i) will proliferate [is capable of proliferation] in an in vitro culture for over one year, (ii) maintains a karyotype in which [all] the chromosomes [characteristic of the human species are present] are euploid and not [noticeably] altered through prolonged culture, (iii) maintains the potential to differentiate to derivatives of endoderm, mesoderm, and ectoderm tissues throughout the culture, and (iv) [are] is inhibited from differentiation when cultured on a fibroblast feeder layer.

Plur: Potent 3. (Amended) A purified preparation of human embryonic stem cells wherein the cells are [essentially] negative for the SSEA-1 marker, positive for the SSEA-4 marker, express